

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (Original) A method for expressing a gene in a bacterial cell comprising: providing an expression vector to a population of untransformed bacterial cells, wherein the expression vector comprises an expression cassette comprising an export protein coding sequence genetically fused to a protein of interest;

expressing the expression cassette such that an export protein::protein of interest fusion protein is produced and exported into the culture medium.

Claim 2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said bacterial cells is a *S. Typhi* cell.

Claim 3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said bacterial cell is an *Escherichia coli* cell.

Claim 4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the export protein coding sequence is selected from the group consisting of *S. Typhi cyla* gene, *S. paratyphi cyla* gene, or the *Escherichia coli clyA* gene.

Claim 5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the export protein coding sequence encodes the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No:2.

Claim 6. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein export protein coding sequence encodes the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 with one or more mutations resulting in amino acid substitutions selected from the group consisting of amino acid substitutions at positions 180, 185, 187, and 193, which attenuate the hemolytic activity of the export protein.

Claim 7. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the protein of interest is an antigen.

Claims 8-20. (Cancelled).